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The Urban District Council of Aberdare



Annual Report

of the

Medical Officer of Health

FOR THE YEAR, 1944

by

T. H. STEPHENS, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.

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HEALTH COMMITTEE

DAY OF MEETING — Last Tuesday in each month at 7 p.m.

MEMBERS

Councillors Thos. Meredith (Chairman), W. D. James, T. Powell, T. G. R. Phillips, D. J. Morse, J. Williams, Trevor Williams, A. T. M. Wilson, Evan E. Jones, John Morgan, Mrs. M. Morris, Mrs. E. Thomas, and ex-officio the Chairman of the Council, Councillor E. W. Davies, and the Vice-Chairman, Councillor D. Rees Jones.

THE MATERNITY AND INFANT WELFARE COMMITTEE is composed of the members of the Health Committee, together with Mrs. M. A. Morgan, 247, Cardiff Road, Aberaman.

PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICERS

Assistant Medical Officer of...Elizabeth A. Marsden, M.B., Health and Assistant School Ch.B., Aberdeen.
Medical Officer.

Orthopaedic Surgeon J. Berry Haycraft, M.B., Ch.B., Edin., F.R.C.S., Eng., Surgeon to the Prince of Wales' Hospital, Cardiff. Assist. Surgeon, Royal Infirmary, Cardiff.

Surgeon for the Operative...Harry Banks, M.B., Dub., Treatment of enlarged Tonsils F.R.C.S., Edin. and Adenoids (part-time).

Dental Surgeons W. Trevor Flooks, L.D.S., Kurt Herzfield, D.M.D.

Medical Officer of the Birth...Sybil M. Morgan, M.R.C.S., Control Clinic (part-time). L.R.C.P., Lond.

Sanitary Inspectors John Thomas, Senior Inspector.
Daniel Lewis.
Daniel Richards.
Trevor Walters.

Matron of the Small - Pox...Florence Paddock.
Hospital, Fedw Hir.

Chief Clerk Trevor J. Hopkins.

Junior Clerk W. G. Davies (Joined H.M. Forces, 15-3-40).
J. Palmer (Joined H.M. Forces 1-7-41).

Clerk (temporary) D. R. Williams.
E. S. Evans.

Junior Clerk N. Jones (Joined H.M. Forces, 5-11-42).

" " (temporary) Miss M. A. Pugh (commenced duties 31-7-42).

" " (temporary) Miss M. Williams (commenced duties 4-8-43).

Health Visitors Dorothy Walker.
Kate Howlett.
E. M. Abraham.
A. M. Cuddigan.
P. J. Airdrie.

Orthopaedic Nurse Kate Howlett.

To the Chairman and Members of the Aberdare Urban District Council.

PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT,
ROCK GROUNDS.

Madam and Gentlemen,—

In accordance with Article 14 (3) of the Sanitary Officers' Order of 1926, I beg to submit my report for the year ended December 31st, 1944. The report is written on the lines suggested by the Ministry of Health, and, compared with previous years, is, in accordance with their wishes, a very brief one.

VITAL STATISTICS

Birth rate	...	...	...	17.3
Crude death rate	...	...	...	13.9
Corrected death rate	...	...	...	15.3
Infantile mortality rate	...	...	...	36
Diarrhœa death rate (under 2 years)				.05
Respiratory death rate (excluding phthisis)	...	...	...	1.4
Phthisis death rate	...	...	...	.75
Other tuberculous diseases death rate				.12
Cancer death rate	...	...	...	1.6

TOPOGRAPHY

The Urban District of Aberdare, 15,127 acres in area, is situated in the northern part of the County of Glamorgan, and occupies some six miles of the Cynon Valley. It is bounded on the north by the Penderyn Rural District; on the south by the Rhondda and Mountain Ash Urban Districts. On the east lies the Borough of Merthyr Tydfil, while the western boundary is formed by the Rhondda Urban and Rhigos Districts. On the western side the Aberdare district occupies a portion of the valley of the Rhondda Fach the river of that name separating it from the Rhondda Urban District.

The River Cynon, which traverses the district, rises amongst the hills of Penderyn, and flows through Hirwaun, Trecynon, Aberdare Town, and joins the Taff at Abercynon. While passing through the district, the Cynon is joined by the Dare and the Aman, which have their sources in the hills on the western part of the district.

The Aberdare Urban District comprises Aberdare Town, which is continuous on the one hand with Trecynon, and on the other with Aberaman, and several large villages. Of these Hirwaun is to the north-west, Llwydcoed to the north, Abernant to the north-east, Cwmdare to the west, Cwmbach to the east, Cwmaman to the south, and Abercwmboi to the south-east of Aberdare Town.

The portion of the valley in which the district lies is broad in character, the hills on each side rising to a height varying from 1,200 to 1,300 feet above the sea level. The main part of Aberdare Town, Trecynon and Aberaman lies practically along

the bed of the valley, which is some 400 to 500 feet above the sea level, whilst Hirwaun is 650, Cwmdare 750, Cwmbach 500, Cwmaman 700, Abercwmboi 400 and Abernant 600 feet above sea level.

Below the Pennant Rock, of which the hills consist, lie the coal measures. The soil is chiefly clay, on which the majority of the houses are built, but along the course of the river it is alluvial in character.

Out of an insured population of 19,662, the number unemployed was 513. The following table shows the various occupations of the people employed:—

MALES		FEMALES	
395	..... National and Local Government	.....	164
25	Professional Occupations & their Subordinate Services	.....	71
38	..... Hotel and Catering	.....	394
483	..... Distributive Trades	.....	628
	Conveyance of Men, Goods & Messages :		
90	..... (a) Railways	.....	31
73	..... (b) Others	.....	0
78	..... Agriculture	.....	6
	Mines and Quarries :		
4808	..... (a) Coal Mines	.....	116
79	..... (b) Quarries	.....	1
429	..... Building	.....	4
157	..... Brick, Cement, Pottery and Glass	.....	17
37	Gas, Water, Electric Supply & Sanitary Service	.....	2
622	..... Chemicals, Explosives and Grease	.....	2026
772	Other General & Undefined Workers & Dealers	.....	483
2567	..... General Engineering	.....	5066
10653	.....	Totals	9009

BIRTH-RATES PER 1,000 OF THE POPULATION

Year	England and Wales	Aberdare
1876-1880	35.3	41.4
1881-1885	33.5	35.2
1886-1890	31.4	33.1
1891-1895	30.5	37.3
1896-1900	29.3	32.5

1901-1905	.....	28.2	.....	34.9
1906	.....	27.0	.....	30.2
1907	.....	26.3	.....	31.2
1908	.....	26.5	.....	34.2
1909	.....	25.6	.....	34.7
1910	.....	24.8	.....	34.5
1911	.....	24.4	.....	32.8
1912	.....	23.8	.....	29.1
1913	.....	23.9	.....	29.5
1914	.....	23.6	.....	29.4
1915	.....	21.9	.....	28.0
1916	.....	21.6	.....	24.9
1917	.....	17.7	.....	22.6
1918	.....	17.7	.....	23.0
1919	.....	18.5	.....	23.5
1920	.....	25.4	.....	27.0
1921	.....	22.4	.....	26.8
1922	.....	20.6	.....	20.7
1923	.....	19.7	.....	21.8
1924	.....	18.8	.....	19.1
1925	.....	18.3	.....	17.0
1926	.....	17.8	.....	16.5
1927	.....	16.7	.....	14.2
1928	.....	16.7	.....	13.5
1929	.....	16.3	.....	13.2
1930	.....	16.3	.....	14.0
1931	.....	15.8	.....	13.9
1932	.....	15.3	.....	12.8
1933	.....	14.4	.....	13.2
1934	.....	14.8	.....	13.3
1935	.....	14.7	.....	13.1
1936	.....	14.8	.....	12.4
1937	.....	14.9	.....	13.9
1938	.....	15.1	.....	13.5
1939	.....	15.0	.....	14.4
1940	.....	14.6	.....	13.6
1941	.....	14.2	.....	15.2
1942	.....	15.8	.....	15.1
1943	.....	16.5	.....	15.6
1944	.....	17.6	.....	17.3

ABERDARE CENSUS POPULATIONS

1801	...	...	...	...	...	1,486
1811	...	...	...	...	...	2,782
1821	...	...	...	...	...	2,063
1831	...	...	...	...	...	3,961
1841	...	...	...	...	...	6,741
1851	...	...	...	...	...	14,998
1861	...	...	...	...	...	32,299
1871	...	...	...	...	...	37,704
1881	...	...	...	...	...	35,512
1891	...	...	...	...	...	38,431
1901	...	...	...	...	...	43,365
1911	...	...	...	...	...	50,844
1921	...	...	...	...	...	55,010
1931	...	...	...	...	...	48,751
1941	...	...	...	...	...	43,740
1944	...	...	...	...	...	39,750

(Last two estimates are the Registrar-General's).

INFANTILE MORTALITY

RATES PER 1,000 BIRTHS

Year	Aberdare	England & Wales
1898	227	160
1899	241	163
1900	164	154
1901	234	151
1902	169	133
1903	174	132
1904	239	145
1905	199	128
1906	209	132
1907	134	118
1908	212	120
1909	127	109
1910	151	105
1911	187	130
1912	114	95
1913	172	108
1914	99	105
1915	140	110
1916	102	91

1917	91	96
1918	123	97
1919	89	89
1920	98	80
1921	104	83
1922	110	77
1923	77	69
1924	84	75
1925	95	75
1926	88	70
1927	71	69
1928	91	65
1929	98	74
1930	68	60
1931	86	66
1932	57	65
1933	78	64
1934	79	59
1935	67	57
1936	68	59
1937	73	58
1938	51	53
1939	50	50
1940	80	55
1941	61	59
1942	66	49
1943	44	49
1944	36	46

MATERNAL MORTALITY

RATES PER 1,000 BIRTHS (LIVE AND STILL)

Year	Rate	Year	Rate
1911	7.6	1912	8.5
1913	3.1	1914	5.7
1915	5.3	1916	7.0
1917	5.9	1918	5.2
1919	8.4	1920	5.3
1921	4.7	1922	5.9
1923	4.0	1924	5.4
1925	6.8	1926	4.0
1927	4.9	1928	5.39
1929	5.59	1930	5.36
1931	5.32	1932	5.15

1933	5.69	1934	5.61
1935	4.6	1936	4.9
1937	3.0	1938	11.1
1939	9.1	1940	4.8
1941	4.4	1942	5.6
1943	3.0	1944	9.7

DEATHS

Year	Number of Deaths Registered	Rate per 1,000 of the Population
1901	921	21.2
1902	859	19.5
1903	809	18.2
1904	1,021	22.6
1905	903	19.8
1906	880	19.0
1907	689	14.7
1908	959	20.2
1909	779	16.2
1910	773	15.9
1911	931	18.2
1912	711	13.7
1913	824	16.3
1914	638	13.1
1915	783	15.2
1916	678	12.6
1917	598	11.1
1918	869	16.7
1919	675	12.5
1920	650	11.8
1921	636	11.5
1922	700	12.4
1923	592	10.4
1924	603	10.3
1925	639	11.07
1926	625	10.9
1927	620	11.0
1928	597	11.0
1929	654	12.3
1930	579	10.9
1931	611	12.5
1932	596	12.1
1933	631	13.1
1934	582	12.3

1935	565	12.2
1936	612	13.61
1937	599	13.7
1938	570	13.2
1939	647	14.2
1940	641	15.3
1941	589	13.4
1942	512	12.2
1943	580	14.4
1944	610	15.3

DIPHTHERIA

Year	Number of Notifications.	Number of Deaths.	Case Mortality per cent.	
1898	1,925	Details not available		
1899	1,633	"	"	
1900	363	"	"	
1901	128	17	13.3	
1902	43	16	37.2	
1903	62	10	16.1	
1904	99	8	8.1	
1905	120	14	11.7	
1906	114	15	13.2	
1907	135	15	11.1	
1908	115	15	13.0	
1909	77	9	11.6	
1910	44	11	25.0	
1911	55	7	12.7	
1912	41	4	9.7	
1913	32	5	15.9	
1914	56	14	25.0	
1915	57	13	22.8	
1916	51	13	25.5	
1917	24	6	25.0	
1918	39	10	25.6	
1919	96	12	12.5	
1920	146	12	8.2	
1921	123	8	6.5	
1922	48	—	—	
1923	27	1	3.7	
1924	41	2	4.8	
1925	49	8	16.3	
1926	28	3	10.7	
1927	56	5	8.9	

1928	130	15	11.5
1929	196	11	5.6
1930	155	9	5.8
1931	58	5	8.6
1932	43	1	2.3
1933	51	5	9.8
1934	107	16	14.9
1935	95	12	12.6
1936	111	5	4.5
1937	101	4	3.9
1938	113	6	5.3
1939	72	2	2.7
1940	149	6	4.02
1941	264	5	1.8
1942	84	3	3.5
1943	24	—	—
1944	13	1	7.6

RATEABLE VALUE

The rateable value is £156,583, and a penny rate produced £584 18s. 7d.

DEATHS

Five hundred and nineteen deaths actually occurred in the district, giving a crude death-rate of 13.9.

The crude death-rate only takes into consideration the deaths which actually occurred in the district.

Ninety-one residents died in other districts, giving a corrected death-rate of 15.3.

The death-rate per 1,000 living for England and Wales for the year 1944 was 11.6; for the 126 great towns, 13.7; for the 148 smaller towns (census population, 25,000—50,000), 12.4, and for London, 15.7.

CAUSES OF DEATH

			M.	F.
All causes	...	...	339	271
1. Typhoid and parat. fevers	...	...	—	—
2. Cerebro-spinal fever	...	...	—	—
3. Scarlet Fever	...	...	—	—
4. Whooping Cough	...	...	—	—
5. Diphtheria	...	...	—	1

6.	Tub. of resp. systems	...	...	...	14	16
7.	Other forms of Tuberculosis	...	...	...	3	2
8.	Syphilitic diseases	...	...	...	1	—
9.	Influenza	...	...	...	11	5
10.	Measles	...	...	...	—	—
11.	Acute polio-myelitis and polio-encephalitis	...	...	...	—	—
12.	Acute inf. encephalitis	...	...	...	—	1
13.	Cancer of b. cav. and oesoph (M.), uterus (F.)	...	...	...	6	6
14.	Cancer of stomach and duodenum	...	...	...	6	6
15.	Cancer of breast	...	...	...	—	4
16.	Cancer of all other sites	...	...	...	19	17
17.	Diabetes	...	...	...	1	3
18.	Intra-cran., vasc., lesions	...	...	...	45	51
19.	Heart disease	...	...	...	104	67
20.	Other diseases of circulation system	...	...	...	5	1
21.	Bronchitis	...	...	...	14	7
22.	Pneumonia	...	...	...	9	8
23.	Other respiratory diseases	...	...	...	21	—
24.	Ulcer of stomach or duodenum	...	...	...	3	1
25.	Diarrhoea, under two years	...	...	...	1	1
26.	Appendicitis	...	...	...	1	1
27.	Other digestive diseases	...	...	...	6	6
28.	Nephritis	...	...	...	10	8
29.	Puerperal and post-abortive sepsis	...	...	...	—	4
30.	Other maternal causes	...	...	...	—	3
31.	Premature birth	...	...	...	5	3
32.	Con. maltruition, birth injury, infantile disease	...	...	...	6	3
33.	Suicide	...	...	...	1	1
34.	Road traffic accidents	...	...	...	2	1
35.	Other violent causes	...	...	...	8	2
36.	All other causes	...	...	...	37	41

BIRTHS

There were registered during the year 689 births (368 males, 321 females), the rate per 1,000 being 17.3, as compared with 15.6 for last year.

The birth-rate for England and Wales for 1944 was 17.6, of the 126 great towns (including London, census population exceeding 50,000), 20.3; of the 148 smaller towns (census population 25,000 to 60,000), 20.9, and of London, 15.0.

The legitimate birth-rate per 1,000 of the population was 16.7, and illegitimate .62.

The still-birth rate per 1,000 of the population was .80.

ILLEGITIMATE BIRTHS AND DEATHS

There were 25 illegitimate births, and five deaths occurred among these children.

MARDY ISOLATION HOSPITAL, MERTHYR

During the year 13 cases of diphtheria, 14 of scarlatina, one of cerebro-spinal fever, one of enteric fever, three of encephalitis lethargica, one of poliomyelitis, one of chickenpox, one of anthrax, one of paratyphoid, one of measles, one of Weil's disease and one of dysentery were removed to the above hospital, and of these one case of diphtheria, one of enteric fever, one of encephalitis lethargica and one of Weil's disease died.

MARDY ISOLATION HOSPITAL, MERTHYR

Expenditure for the year ended 31st March, 1944.

Aggregate number of days spent by patients in	
Hospital	2,280
Cost of isolation and treatment	£465/10/-
Number of patients admitted	45

J. L. THOMAS,

42/43, High Street, Aberdare.

Accountant.

NUTRITION

We continued to distribute leaflets at the Infant Welfare Centre and the School Clinic.

SCHOOLS

For particulars with regard to schools, the reader is referred to the report made to the Education Committee.

PUBLIC HEALTH ACT, 1925 — SECTION 67.

The advertising boards of the Empire Marketing Board and those of a billposting company were used for placards dealing with health matters.

NOTIFIABLE DISEASES

During the year 636 notifications were received, distributed among the different wards as follows:—

Llwydcoed	169	Gadlys	145
Town	101	Blaengwawr	83
Aberaman	138		

The number 636 is constituted as follows:—Diphtheria, 13; erysipelas, 17; scarlet fever, 56; paratyphoid B, 1; puerperal pyrexia, 7; ophthalmia neonatorum, 2; acute poliomyelitis, 1; pneumonia, 59; dysentery, 1; pulmonary tuberculosis, 85; other forms of tuberculosis, 14; measles, 260; whooping cough, 119; and encephalitis lethargica, 1.

SCARLATINA

There were 56 notifications of the above disease, distributed as follows:—

Llwydcoed	12	Gadlys	15
Town	10	Blaengwawr	5
Aberaman	14		

The number of infected houses was 55, and of these one had more than one case.

The disease was of a very mild character.

The death-rate for England and Wales was 0.00, that for great etowns 0.00, that for smaller towns 0.00, that for London 0.00, and that for Aberdare nil.

DIPHTHERIA

Thirteen notifications were received, the ward distribution of these cases being as follows:—

Llwydcoed	4	Gadlys	1
Town	3	Blaengwawr	2
Aberaman	3		

There were 13 infected houses.

The case mortality per cent. was 7.6.

The death-rate per 1,000 of the population was .02, as compared with .02 for England and Wales, 0.3 for the great town, .03 for the smaller towns, and .01 for London.

TUBERCULOSIS

During the year 85 cases of pulmonary tuberculosis and 14 of tuberculosis of other regions were notified.

The sub-joined table, prescribed by the Ministry of Health, gives the age and sex distributions of persons notified as suffering from the disease and of those who died from it:—

AGE PERIODS	NEW CASES						DEATHS			
	Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary		Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary		Pulmonary	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
0	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1	1	2	1	1	1	—
5	2	—	—	1	—	1
10	3	2	1	1	—	1
15	6	3	—	—	—	1
20	4	13	1	1	2	5
25	8	7	2	4	—	5
35	12	4	—	1	4	2
45	9	1	—	—	3	1
55	5	3	—	—	4	1
65 (and upwards)	—	—	—	—	—	—
Totals	50	35	5	9	14	16	3	2

The health visitors paid 1,885 visits to patients suffering from tuberculosis.

At the end of the year there were 218 males and 214 females on the register, and of these 252 were found to be in good health, 128 in fair health, 25 in the same condition as they were in when notified, and 27 were in sanatoria.

It was found that 151 males were working regularly, eight unemployed, but fit for work, and 45 were unable to work.

PNEUMONIA

Fifty-nine cases of the above disease were notified, and the death-rate per 1,000 population was .42.

All these cases were visited, and suitable literature supplied to those in attendance on the patient.

PUERPERAL PYREXIA

Seven cases of puerperal pyrexia were notified, and there were four deaths.

The notification rate per 1,000 births (live and still) was 9.7.

OPHTHALMIA NEONATORUM

Two cases occurred, and recovered with unimpaired sight.

MEASLES

There were no deaths registered as having been due to the above disease.

The death-rate for England and Wales was .01 ; for the great towns, .01 ; for the smaller towns, .01 ; for London, .00 ; and for Aberdare, nil.

NON-NOTIFIABLE DISEASE

Influenza

Sixteen deaths were caused by the above disease. The death-rate per 1,000 population was .40, as compared with .12 for England and Wales ; .10 for the great towns ; .11 for the smaller towns, and .08 for London.

Diarrhoea and Enteritis

Two deaths were attributed to this cause.

The death-rate for England and Wales per 1,000 births was 4.8 ; for the great towns, 7.3 ; for the smaller towns, 4.4 ; for London, 10.1 ; and for Aberdare, 3.0.

MIDWIVES' ACT, 1902

MIDWIVES' ACT, 1936

Notifications from midwives of their intention to practise:

(a) Resident within the district 25

(b) Resident outside the district, but practising inside	Nil
The number of the above who were enrolled in virtue of having been in practice previously to 31st July, 1901	Nil
Number holding certificates in midwifery from institutions or societies recognised by the Central Midwives' Board	25
Nurses who have ceased practising (deaths)	Nil
Nurses who have ceased practising	Nil
Nurses who have ceased practising removed from the district)	Nil
Notices received of sending medical aid	269
Notices received of still-births from midwives	32
Midwives removed from midwives' roll owing to gross negligence in their duties	Nil
Visits paid to midwives at their houses to inspect bags and registers	210

For midwifery purposes, the urban area is divided into six districts, and there are seven permanent nurses and two temporary ones employed by the Council.

Seventy-six live-births and four still-births were dealt with by the independent midwives, as compared with 429 live-births, 18 still-births, four miscarriages, and 11 abortions attended to by the municipal midwives.

One hundred and forty-seven live-births and seven still-births were dealt with at the Aberdare General Hospital.

ANTE-NATAL CLINIC

Three hundred and two patients attended the clinic, the number of attendances being 996, and the average weekly attendance 19.9. This work is done on Friday by Dr. Marsden.

The under-mentioned diseases were treated in the numbers indicated:—

Dental Treatment .....	...	...	...	...	90
High Blood Pressure .....	...	...	...	...	2
Constipation .....	...	...	...	...	15
Albuminuria .....	...	...	...	...	8
Heart Trouble .....	...	...	...	...	7
Leucorrhœa .....	...	...	...	...	10
Threatened Miscarriage .....	...	...	...	...	4

Forceps Delivery	...	...	...	...	...	16
Anæmia	...	...	...	...	...	2
Haemorrhoids	...	...	...	...	...	5
Varicose Veins	...	...	...	...	...	7
Bronchitis	...	...	...	...	...	3
Miscarriage	...	...	...	...	...	4
Breech Delivery	...	...	...	...	...	5
Premature Birth	...	...	...	...	...	3

Cases referred to their own doctors:—

Contracted Pelvis	...	...	...	...	...	1
Twin Pregnancy	...	...	...	...	...	2
Placenta Praevia	...	...	...	...	...	2
Caesarean Section	...	...	...	...	...	3
Breech	...	...	...	...	...	2

STILL-BIRTHS

Neo-Natal Deaths

Thirty-two still-births and 25 neo-natal deaths were investigated.

MATERNAL DEATHS

Last year the Registrar-General attributed four deaths to puerperal and post-abortion sepsis, and three from other maternal causes.

The death-rate per 1,000 live and still-births was 9.7.

The death-rate per 1,000 live and still-births from puerperal sepsis was 5.5.

HEALTH VISITORS

The Health Visitors paid 632 first visits, and 14,230 revisits to children under school age.

INFANTILE MORTALITY

The infantile mortality rate was 36, as compared with 52 for the great towns, and 46 for England and Wales.

The rate for the County of Glamorgan was 48, for the Glamorgan Urban Districts 50, and for the Glamorgan Rural Districts 44.

Subjoined will be found the rates for some of the larger Glamorgan districts:—

Barry	46	Mountain Ash ...	52
Caerphilly	48	Neath Borough ...	34
Maesteg	88	Pontypridd	51
Port Talbot	43	Rhondda	51
Neath Rural	32		

INFANT WELFARE CENTRE

Five thousand eight hundred and eight attendances were made at the Centre during the year, the average weekly attendance having been 111. Two hundred and thirty-five diseases and disorders were diagnosed, and the majority were treated at the Centre.

Sixty-five conditions requiring surgical attention were diagnosed, and either referred to their own doctor or to the orthopaedic surgeons.

Five hundred and ninety-eight tins of Maltoline were given out to children suffering from malnutrition.

ORTHOPAEDIC TREATMENT

Mr. Haycraft examined 61 new cases and re-examined 33 old ones. One case attended the Price of Wales' Hospital, Cardiff; and surgical appliances were given to six children. Eighty-eight children made 170 visits to the clinic, and the nurse paid 360 visits to the homes of crippled children.

ENLARGED TONSILS AND ADENOIDS

Three children under five years of age were operated on at the General Hospital.

MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE DENTAL TREATMENT.

This work is done on Monday afternoons, and the particulars of the work done are as follows:—

EXPECTANT MOTHERS

Number of visits to the clinic	...	...	...	...	151
" " fillings	...	...	...	...	13
" " extractions	...	...	...	...	135
" " gas administrations	...	...	...	...	34
" " dressings	...	...	...	...	—

" "	scalings	...	...	...	...	...	16
" "	impressions taken	...	...	...	...	...	17
" "	sets inserted	...	...	...	...	...

INFANTS

Number of visits to the clinic	...	...	...	...	...	160
" "	fillings	...	...	...	...	41
" "	extractions	...	...	...	...	80
" "	gas administrations	...	...	...	...	52
" "	dressings	...	...	...	...	51
" "	scalings	...	...	...	...	2

OTORRHOEA

Twelve patients from the Infant Welfare Centre suffering from running ears were treated on Wednesday and Saturday mornings at the School Clinic:

BIRTH CONTROL CLINIC

Date.		Number of New Patients	Number of Re-visits to Clinic.
11th January	...	—	18
8th February	...	—	20
14th March	...	1	12
9th May	...	—	14
13th June	...	—	15
11th July	...	—	6
1st August	...	—	10
12th September	...	—	18
10th October	...	—	18
14th November	...	1	12
12th December	...	2	15

DIPHTHERIA IMMUNISATION

Return from 1st January to the 31st December, 1944

Children Population.

Aged under
five years

Number of children in the Authority's area on
the 13th December, 1944

2,536

IMMUNISED CHILDREN

Number of children who have completed the full course of immunisation between 1st January to the 31st December, 1944	480
Number of children who have completed the full course of immunisation prior to the 31st December, 1943	1,661
	2,141
Less 441 children who have attained the age of five years and over	441
	1,700

SLAUGHTER OF ANIMALS ACT, 1933

Seventeen licences were granted to butchers authorising them to slaughter animals under the above-mentioned Act.

SLAUGHTERHOUSE

The Slaughterhouse is under the management of the Ministry of Food and serves the Aberdare and Mountain Ash areas. The number of animals slaughtered during the year was 22,944. All the carcases were examined and the details of the inspections made are as indicated below.

CARCASES INSPECTED AND CONDEMNED

	Cattle excluding			Sheep and	
	Cows	Cows	Calves	Lambs	Pigs
Number killed	579	867	1,598	19,700	200
Number inspected	579	867	1,598	19,700	200

(All diseases except
Tuberculosis) :—

Whole carcase condemned ..	1	16	1	5	—
Carcase of which some part or organ was condemned	55	228	60	1,511	23
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than T.B. ..	9.7	28.1	3.8	7.7	11.5

(Tuberculosis only):—						
Whole carcases condemned ..	—	20	—	—	—	7
Carcase of which some part or organ was condemned ..	30	181	4	—	—	7
Percentage of the number inspected affected with Tuberculosis	5.2	23.1	0.2	—	—	7.0

UN SOUND FOOD

Food of the above description condemned as unfit for human consumption amounted to 21 tons 11 cwts. 77 lbs. The amount condemned at the slaughterhouse was 39,122 lbs., which consisted of beef, 15,866 lbs.; beef offal, 17,094 lbs.; veal, 46 lbs.; veal offal, 141 lbs.; mutton, 217 lbs.; mutton offal, 4,014 lbs.; pork, 1,116 lbs., and pork offal, 628 lbs., and 9,227 lbs. of miscellaneous articles of food were condemned in various premises and stores throughout the district.

MILK (SPECIAL DESIGNATIONS) ORDERS, 1936-1943

Two licences were issued to establishments for the production of pasteurised milk, and three dealers' licences were issued to retailers of pasteurised milk. Thirty-six samples of milk were taken for bacteriological examination. All the samples with the exception of one were satisfactory. Five samples of Tuberculin Tested Milk were taken on behalf of the Welsh Board of Health. Four were found to be satisfactory and one did not comply with the Methylene Blue Test.

EXAMINATION OF MILK FOR TUBERCLE BACILLI

Samples of milk were taken from ten herds of milching cows in the district for examination for tubercle bacilli. The result of the examination showed no evidence of tubercle bacilli in any of the samples.

NATIONAL MILK TESTING — ADVISORY SCHEME

Eighty-three samples of milk were taken on behalf of the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries. The result of the

examinations are as indicated below :

52	Samples were placed in Category	A
27	" "	B
4	" "	C

MILK AND DAIRIES ORDER, 1926

There are 20 producers of milk and 35 producer-retailers of milk on the register ; of these, four are producing T.T. milk and two accredited milk. In addition there are 23 retailers of milk in the district. Four hundred and seventy visits were paid to these premises during the year.

Of the milk consumed in the district approximately 70 per cent. is pasteurised, five per cent. is T.T. or accredited and 25 per cent. ungraded milk.

WATER SUPPLY

Thirty-one samples of water were taken for bacteriological examination, and the samples which showed any slight deviation from the normal standard were reported to the water engineer and were attended to. Three samples were also taken for chemical analysis and these showed no evidence of any organic contamination. •

The water supply of the district is derived from upland sources. Llwydcoed, Abernant, Cwmbach, Abercwmboi, Robertstown and parts of Trecynon and Aberaman are supplied from two reservoirs, the Nanthir and Nantymoel, situated about four miles to the north of the town of Aberdare.

The reservoirs have a total capacity of 133,000,000 gallons, drain a gathering ground of 1,075 acres, and are the property of the Council. On account of the lead dissolving powers of the water from these reservoirs, chalk is added.

The Town, Gadlys, Blaengwawr and part of Aberaman are supplied by the Craig Reservoir, which has a capacity of 7,000,000 gallons, and derives water from a gathering ground of about 500 acres in area. This reservoir is close to the recreation grounds known as Dumfries Park.

Pwllfa reservoir is a brick storage tank, with a capacity of 150,000 gallons, the water being mechanically filtered by means of a Reeve's patent filter. This is situated at a place known as Ffyrnant, and supplies the Llanwonno Road district. The remainder of Cwmaman is supplied from a reservoir in the

Aman Fach Valley, which derives its supplies from the Aman Fach brook and from two springs. Mechanical pressure filters have been installed, and the reservoir is constructed of reinforced concrete, the capacity being about 65,000 gallons.

Hirwaun and Cwmdare are supplied from the reservoirs of the Taff Fechan Water Board.

The attention of the Council has been called at the time of writing this report to the unsatisfactory water supply to 114 houses in Cwmaman, who derive their water supply from a small reservoir which has plenty of opportunities for contamination. The Council are taking immediate steps to rectify the position.

PREMISES USED FOR THE PREPARATION OF HUMAN FOOD

During the year 449 visits were paid to these premises and all were kept in a satisfactory condition.

BAKEHOUSES AND FACTORIES

There are 24 bakehouses and 75 factories on the register. Details of the inspections made are as indicated below:

	Inspections	Written Notices
Factories — without mechanical power	238	... 7
Factories—with mechanical power	365	... 2

Defects found—Particulars:	Found	Remedied
Want of cleanliness	8	... 8
Defective sanitary conveniences	1	... 1

CLOSET ACCOMMODATION

Particulars of the work done under this heading will be found in the tabulated summary of work done by the sanitary inspectors at the end of this report.

HOUSING

During the year, 311 houses were repaired as the result of interviews with owners and the serving of formal and informal notices.

Details of the work done will be found in the summary of work done by the sanitary inspectors.

RATS AND MICE DESTRUCTION ACT, 1919, AND THE INFESTATION ORDER, 1943

The work on the destruction of rats was continued under the above orders during the year with the assistance of the rodent operator, who commenced duties on the 17th of January, 1944. Practically all the work was carried out in accordance with the directions given by the Rodent Control Branch of the Ministry of Food.

One hundred and ninety-one surface treatments were carried out mostly in the town area, and it is estimated that 3,327 rats were destroyed. In addition, 162 rats were killed by dogs, 32 on river banks and 135 from a rick of oats which was owned by the Council. Two sewer treatments were also carried out with the assistance of two sewer men and seven additional men for a period of six weeks, and it is estimated that in the first treatment 4,079 and in the second treatment 3,340 rats were destroyed, thus making an estimated total of 10,913 destroyed during the year.

ERADICATION OF THE BED BUG

One hundred and twenty-four houses were reported to be infested with bugs. Six of these were Council houses. One vacant house was treated with "Thermatox" fumigators and the others were sprayed with Zaldecide, and it was found necessary in some cases to apply this treatment on several occasions

FOOD AND DRUGS ACT, 1938

The number of samples taken during the year for qualitative analysis was 121, comprising 82 milk and 39 of other foods and drugs.

Of the 121 samples examined, six were found to be adulterated or otherwise unsatisfactory, being five per cent. of the whole.

The reports on the adulterated samples and the result on the action taken are as indicated below :

Serial No.	Article	Formal or Informal	Nature of adulteration or irregularity	Action taken
A19	Milk	Formal	Contained added water, 10 per cent.	Prosecution—Fined £5 and 12/6 costs.

A44	Vinegar	"	Deficient in Acetic Acid, 10 per cent.	Prosecution— Fined £1 and 16/6 costs.
A72	Milk	"	Contained added water, 6 per cent.	Prosecution—Dismissed on payment of costs.
A83	Milk	"	Deficient in milk fat, 8 per cent.	Prosecution — Case withdrawn.
A92	Vinegar	"	Deficient in Acetic Acid, 14 per cent.	Prosecution—Fined 10s. with analyst fee.
A95	Milk	"	Deficient in milk fat, 16 per cent.	Followed up by an 'Appeal to cow' sample, which was deficient in milk fat to at least 20 per cent. Producer warned.

SUMMARY OF WORK DONE BY THE SANITARY INSPECTORS DURING THE YEAR

Number of houses and premises inspected	...	...	6093
Number of houses and premises re-visited	...	...	7385
Number of notices served—preliminary	...	...	350
Number of notices served—statutory	...	...	171
Number of houses repaired	...	...	391
Drains cleansed and repaired	...	...	129
Closets cleansed or repaired	...	...	90
Flushing tanks renewed	...	...	21
New closets erected to existing buildings	...	...	18
Yards paved or repaired	...	...	128
Defective house roofs repaired	...	...	311
Defective walls repaired	...	...	251
Defective chimneys repaired	...	...	124
Defective ceilings repaired	...	...	113
Defective floors repaired	...	...	168
Defective doors repaired or renewed	...	...	111
Defective windows repaired or renewed	...	...	191
Defective fireplaces repaired or renewed	...	...	155
Defective ovens renewed	...	...	66
New eaves-gutters and downpipes fixed	...	...	237
Accumulations of refuse removed	...	...	268
Other nuisances abated	...	...	46
Number of milk samples taken for examination	...	...	124
Number of water samples taken for examination	...	...	31
Number of samples taken for Food and Drugs	...	...	131
Number of rat-infested premises inspected	...	...	191
Number of houses infested with vermin inspected	...	...	124
Number of infectious disease cases investigated	...	...	217

DISINFECTION

Number of houses fumigated after infectious disease	...	158
Number of articles disinfected by Steam	...	2876
Number of articles destroyed	...	34

DRAIN TESTING

Number of old drains tested	...	...	...	...	46
Number found defective	...	...	...	...	44
Number of drains relaid	...	...	...	...	42

FACTORIES

Number on Register	...	...	...	...	...	75
Number of outworkers	...	...	...	...	...	Nil
Number of visits of inspection	...	...	...	...	...	468
Defects remedied	...	...	...	...	...	5

BAKEHOUSES

Number on Register	...	...	...	...	...	24
Number of visits of inspection	...	...	...	...	...	135
Defects remedied	...	...	...	...	...	4

DAIRIES, COWSHEDS AND MILKSHOPS

Number on Register	...	...	...	...	...	72
Number of visits of inspection	...	...	...	...	...	473
Defects remedied	...	...	...	...	...	8

SLAUGHTERHOUSE

Number of animals slaughtered	...	...	...	...	...	22,944
Number of carcases inspected	...	...	...	...	...	22,944
Meat condemned at Slaughterhouses	...	...	...	...	(lbs.)	39,122
Other Foods	...	...	...	...	(lbs.)	9,227

JOHN THOMAS,

Senior Sanitary Inspector.

